

10-1-1991

## UA51/3/3 Fanlight Vol. 7, No. 4

Kentucky Library & Museum

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc\\_ua\\_records](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records)

---

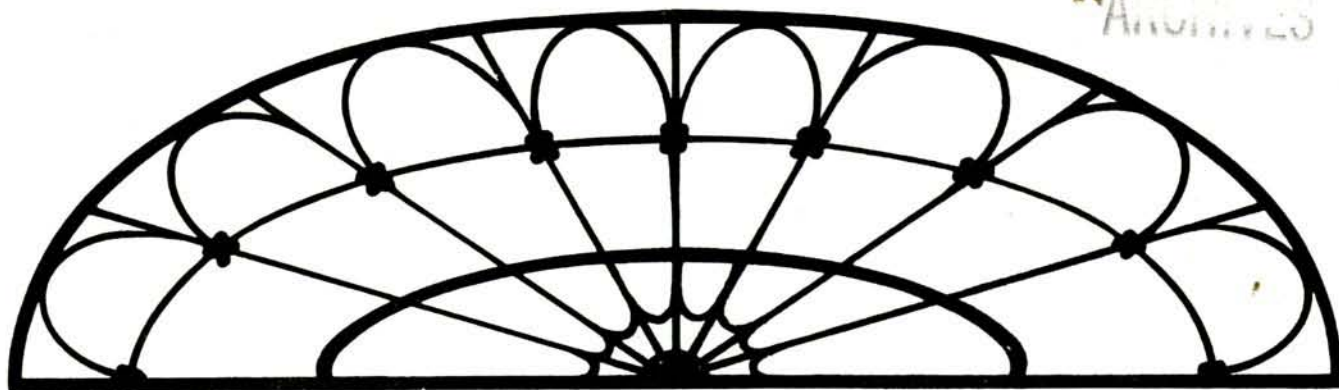
### Recommended Citation

Kentucky Library & Museum, "UA51/3/3 Fanlight Vol. 7, No. 4" (1991). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 327.  
[http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc\\_ua\\_records/327](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/327)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in WKU Archives Records by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact [connie.foster@wku.edu](mailto:connie.foster@wku.edu).

52/3 A17

ARCHIVE 23

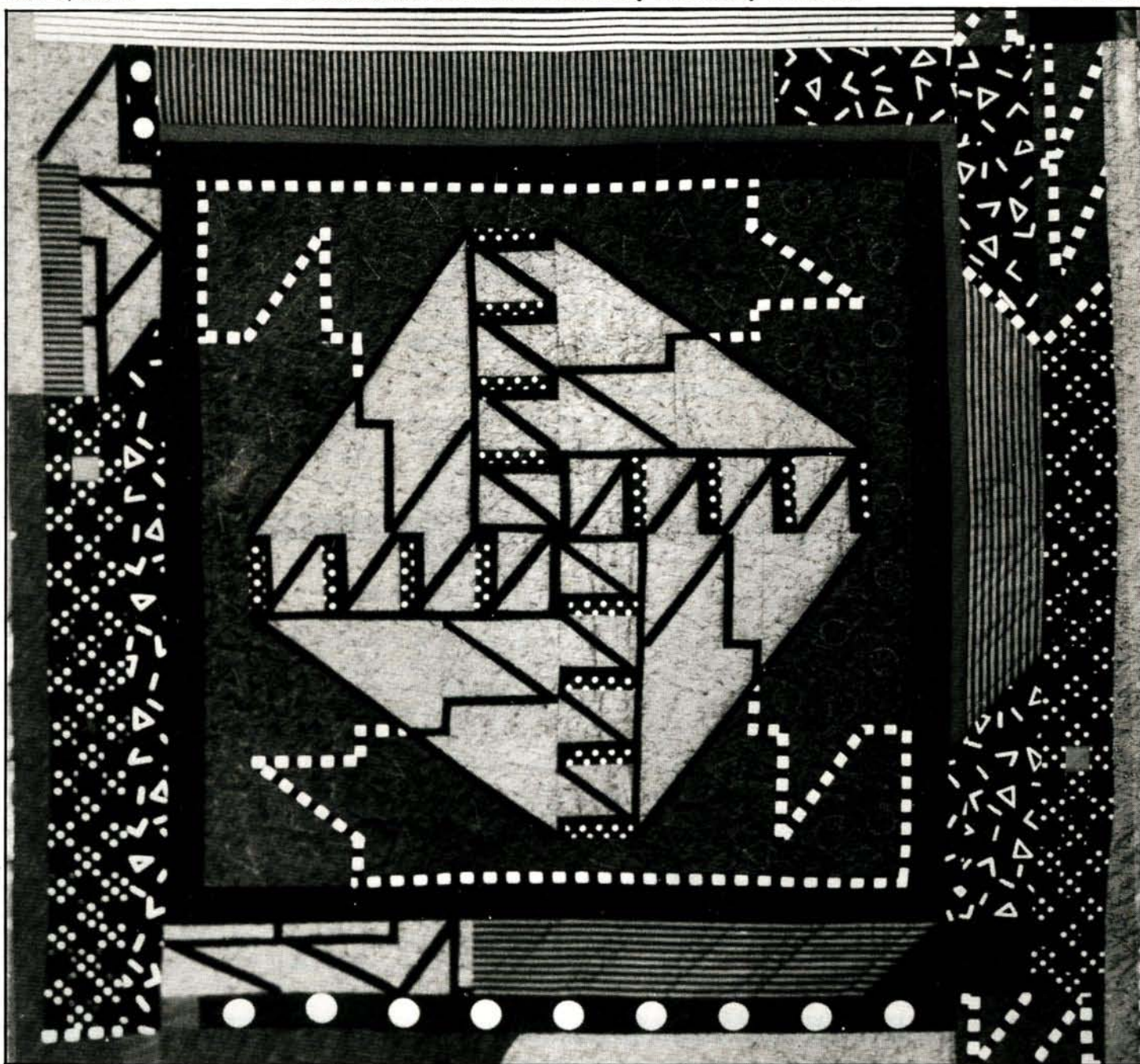


# THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 7, No. 4

A Publication of Western Kentucky University Libraries

Fall, 1991





# OKTOBERFEST!



We may not "roll out the barrel," but there will be a **barrel of fun** at the Kentucky Museum Associates' OKTOBERFEST, scheduled for Sat., Oct.

12, 7 - 11 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 911 Searcy Way in Bowling Green.

Sponsors of the second annual fundraiser are American

National Bank; Cole, Minton and Moore; Turner Industries; and Clark Distributing Co. Proceeds will go to support museum activities, exhibits and programs.

Tickets may be purchased starting in mid-Sept. at Quality Temporaries, 1302 Scottsville Road, Bowling Green, Ky., (502) 781-6213, from 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Mon. - Fri. and 2 - 6 p.m. Sat. and Sun.

The price of the tickets, \$12 per person in advance or \$15 at the door, covers admission and entertainment, which will be provided by Fritz's German Band, the Nashville group that was such a hit last year. German food, to be catered by Cambridge Market and Cafe, and drink will cost extra.

For more information, contact Adele Kupchella, University Libraries Development Officer, (502) 745-5084, or the OKTOBERFEST Planning Committee co-chairs, Jim and Donna Phillips (502) 745-6111.

## THE FANLIGHT

THE FANLIGHT is published and distributed by The Kentucky Museum, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101, (502) 745-2592.

Editor..... Earlene Chelf  
Layout and Graphic Design..... Sarah J. Moore  
Photography..... Bob Skipper  
Earlene Chelf  
For Kids Only..... Dianne Watkins  
Contributors..... Ann Fields  
Gretchen Niva  
Sandra Staebell  
Illustration..... Stephanie Britt

## Cover Photo:

"Classic Counter Point," a 58" x 60" quilt made by Judy Becker, Newton, MA, is an original fiber artwork from "CAE Presents Needle Expressions '90," a traveling exhibition organized by the Council of American Embroiderers. The Margie Helm Library Fund, an endowment in Western's College Heights Foundation, funded the exhibit at The Kentucky Museum, one of only seven places to book this extraordinary needlework show. The last opportunity to see "Needle Expressions '90" will be at the Craft Center, North Carolina State University (Raleigh), Sept. 30 - Oct. 25.



# NOTES FROM THE HILL

## Writing on Location at the Kentucky Museum

by

**Ann Fields  
& Gretchen Niva**

*Editor's Note: This column is reserved for articles written by individuals from offices or departments across campus. Ann Fields, assistant professor, and Gretchen Niva, associate professor, are members of the English Department.*

Writing is a challenging process. Readings, music, art work, films and especially visits to The Kentucky Museum can provide exposure to new ideas and serve as springboards for writing. For well over a decade we have found inspiration for our college English classes at The Kentucky Museum. Initially, we used visits to acquaint freshmen with a unique campus location and to take them back to another time and place through the exhibit "Growing Up Victorian."

Students responded positively, especially to the room settings and often made associations with similar places and objects within their own families.

Although "Growing Up Victorian" has been a favorite, we have had excellent papers written about other notable exhibits including "the Bride Wore Blue" (our male students found this an intriguing topic), and more recently "Sh-Boom." Joe Downing's art exhibit, however, provoked the widest range of responses of any exhibit we have visited.

For our English education classes the suitcase exhibits, particularly the "Growing Up Victorian: At School" and "Just A Minute--I'm Almost Ready" provide examples of how objects from the past can be used to bridge to the present. Students see the potential for developing exhibits of their own for use in their classrooms when they become teachers.

During the past six summers, teachers selected for the WKU Writing Project have regularly spent a half day at the museum, investigating the potential of the site both as a resource for teaching and as the subject for writing papers of all sorts. This summer the furniture exhibit "A Change of Style" was the focus for several pieces by WKU's Writing Project teachers.

Writing "on location" at The Kentucky Museum can be both stimulating and educational, and certainly no student has ever suffered from "writer's block" while working in the museum. Trips to the museum are first-time visits for many students; however, most will return to explore further exhibits of particular interest to them. The Kentucky Museum's diverse holdings offer both students and teachers endless opportunities for writing in a unique environment.



**Ann Fields (left) and Gretchen Niva "huddle" to discuss cooperative writing projects for the 1991 academic year.**

PHOTO BY EARLENE CHIEF



# THE BEST SMALL TOWN FOURTH OF JULY IN THE SOUTH\*



The Declaration of Independence was read by Craig Taylor

## Patriotism



Flag Ceremony by Girl Scout Troop 600



"America the Beautiful" was sung by Thom Bynum

Three Legged Race



## Family Fun



Water Balloon Toss



Doc Livingston and the Presumes



Folk Musician/Story Teller Randy Wilson

## Music



Gospel Singers, The Cockriels

Sack Race



\*Rating by TRAVEL SOUTH magazine.

The Kentucky Museum's  
1991 "Old Fashioned Fourth of July"  
was underwritten by  
TRANS FINANCIAL BANK-  
Bowling Green, Cave City,  
Glasgow and Russellville.



**FOR  
KIDS  
ONLY**



## MANUSCRIPTS

### MANU – *hand* SCRIPT – *writing*

Any form of writing on paper or other material that has not been published is considered a manuscript.

One ancient system of writing was cuneiform (kū • nī • fōrm). The Sumerians, people who lived in the lower part of Mesopotamia, now Iraq, pressed wedged-shaped cuneiform characters into wet clay tablets. The tablets were dried in the sun or baked in an oven until they hardened. Instead of 26 letters like our alphabet, there were 900 cuneiform symbols! You can see a *cuneiform tablet* in *Curiosity Hall* at *The Kentucky Museum*.

Man first expressed his thoughts by drawing pictures on cave walls. People have written on many kinds of materials but the first paper is believed to have been made by the Chinese about 105 A.D. There were paper mills in England in the 15th century but none in the United States until 1690.

Quill pens were used in the 1600s but the common round pencil did not appear until the early 1800s. Typewriters were invented in England in 1714 but were not made in America until 1829.

Today, individuals and libraries collect manuscript materials: letters, diaries, journals, documents and autographs. Many valuable manuscripts are treasured and protected, such as the original Constitution of the United States, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and favorite children's poems and stories like Clement Moore's *A Visit from St. Nicholas*.

The manuscript collection in The Kentucky Building contains a signature of Daniel Boone, letters from Presidents John F. Kennedy and Theodore Roosevelt, book manuscripts by Janice Holt Giles and items from other famous people. There are also diaries of everyday people such as Josephine Calvert and Civil War soldiers.

Preserve the manuscripts in your family. Someday your signature may be as important as Daniel Boone's or Abraham Lincoln's!





# WORDSCRAMBLE

E P E N S X O T A B L E T C  
S Q U I L L T C L A Y T E U  
E C O L L E C T D L P T N N  
N A P B L T O P Y I P P O E  
I V B S U T X I R B R E O I  
H E P A P E R C O R I N B F  
C S M O I R S T T A N C L O  
D I A R Y U C U S R T I E R  
T W A I N X A R I Y I L V M  
X W I A N P V E H Y N I O T  
O X M A N X E X O O G X N I



**FIND THE WORDS BELOW SCRAMBLED IN THE BOX ABOVE**

PENS  
TABLET  
QUILL  
CLAY  
BOONE  
DIARY

MANUSCRIPT  
PICTURE  
LETTER  
COLLECT  
LIBRARY  
PRINTING

MAN  
PENCIL  
PAPER  
CHINESE  
CAVE  
CUNEIFORM



*Editor's Note: This article usually features an object or objects housed in the museum's largest storage area, Room E-300. However, the military miniatures will reside in E-109, the toy storage room.*

# E-300

## Invasion of the Toy Soldiers

By  
Sandra Staebell

**T**he Persian Gulf was not the only region of the world to see military action recently. Closer to home, the Orientation Room in the Kentucky Building was the scene of an invasion of sorts: the William H. McLean Toy Soldier Collection. The collection of approximately 1,350 items, assembled by the late William H. McLean of Little Rock, Ark., was donated to the museum by Mrs. William H. McLean.

Toy soldiers, or military miniatures as collectors refer to them, date back to the Egyptian pharaohs and were the province of the wealthy until the mid-nineteenth century when firms like M. Loucotte in France and Heyde

in Germany produced them for the general public.

The strength of the McLean Collection lies in the pieces made by Britains, Ltd., founded by toy manufacturer William Britain. The company became the industry leader after the owner successfully adapted hollow-cast metal production techniques to the

manufacture of toy soldiers. Lead soldiers were produced and sold by the company until the 1960s when concerns about lead poisoning forced them to switch to plastic.

Collection items made by Britains, Ltd. include 60 complete or partial sets dating between 1940 and 1959 and figures from 25 sets made in the 1920s and 1930s. McLean also collected 4 sets from the 1960s.

Unique pieces include a set of British Redcoats issued during the 1920s and a Gurkha Rifles unit sold in 1930. The collection

also contains 12 mounted Arabs (1940), a Bikanir Camel Corps (1945) and a set of African Zulu warriors (1950). Other Britains-made miniatures range from Japanese, Belgian and Turkish infantry to Greek Euzones to mounted Hindus.

Other major manufacturers are also represented in the collection. The oldest American-made miniatures are several Civil War Infantry figures sold by Grey Iron and a set of British soldiers made by Manoil in the 1930s. Grey made solid cast-iron miniatures for the dime store market in 1917; Manoil, whose early figures were nicknamed "hollow base," produced toy soldiers between 1935 and 1955.

Although the majority of the collection predates 1960, McLean also collected miniatures issued more recently. For example, he acquired several 1985 issues from Barclay Manufacturing Company, a firm which sold several million soldiers in dime stores like Woolworth's during the 1930s and included likenesses of American generals Eisenhower, Patton, Bradley and Mac-

Arthur.

The significance of the William H. McLean Toy Soldier Collection cannot be overstated. The museum staff wishes to thank Mrs. McLean for donating the collection and Barbara and Harry Ford, her daughter and son-in-law, who were instrumental in bringing this collection to the museum.



**Pictured is General George S. Patton, one of approximately 1,350 miniatures from the William H. McLean Toy Soldier Collection, which includes nearly every fighting unit—domestic or foreign, marching or mounted—plus some armored vehicles and artillery.**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB SKIPPER





# SEVEN NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE MUSEUM ADVISORY COUNCIL



(L-R) Jim Smith, Neal Ransdell, Sallye Russell Clark, Marilyn Casto and Richard Mason look on as Riley Handy (standing) presented Certificates of Appreciation to "retiring" Kentucky Museum Advisory Council members.

President Thomas Meredith appointed Kristen Bale, Marilyn Casto, Mary Cohron, John Edmonds, Richard Mason and Cynthia Veltschegger to two-year terms on the Kentucky

Museum Advisory Council. The new members replaced George Boone, Sallye Russell Clark, Charles English, Gail Martin, Regina Newell, Neal Ransdell, Julius Rather, Babs Schnoes

and Sam Houston Watkins, whose terms expired.

At the Council's July 22 meeting, the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers was approved by acclamation. They are Jo Jean Scott, Chair; Top Orendorf, Vice Chair; Martha Haynes, Secretary; David Garvin, Treasurer; and former chair, Ray Buckberry Jr., will serve as Parliamentarian.

Riley Handy said, "Since the first advisory council was appointed in 1980, the museum has benefitted from enthusiastic and dedicated leadership. We appreciate the contribution made by those whose terms are up and look forward to our association with new members."

In addition to the appointees and officers, Lucinda Anderson, Charles Carter, Billie Dickinson, Henry Hardin, Martha McGuirk and Julia Neal also serve on the Advisory Council.

## WORKSHOPS IN MAGIC

Tom Hamilton, the master of sleight-of-hand, will be back at The Kentucky Museum on Sat., Sept. 21, to conduct **WORKSHOPS IN MAGIC**.

There will be two sessions: 9:30 - 11:00 for ages 6 - 10; 12:30 - 2:00 for children 11 and over. Participants will work with live birds and rabbits and learn how to escape from a straitjacket!

Cost is \$8 for Kentucky Museum Associates and \$10 for nonmembers.

For more information or to register, contact Dianne Watkins, (502) 745-6082.

(Right) Two skeptical "volunteers" helped Tom Hamilton perform an amazing feat of magic when he appeared at the opening of "Yesterday's Children."

PHOTO BY EARLENE CHIEF





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Current

"A Change of Style: Furniture From the Kentucky Museum," funded by Bowling Green Bank & Trust and Greenview Hospital's Birthing Center - Galleries K & L. **Closes November 14, 1991.**

Felts Log House - **open weekends only** through October 6, 1991.

## September

1

Textile of the Month - Double Wedding Ring quilt (ca. 1915-1925), made by Mrs. Leslie Carlisle Parker, Hopkins County, Ky.; donated by Miss L. Evadine Parker, Bowling Green.

21

Workshops in Magic (See photo, page 7).

## October

1

Textile of the Month - Ninepatch/Irish Chain variation pieced quilt, made by Elizabeth M. Woods, Warren County, Ky.; donated

ed by Mrs. Mildred Potter Lissauer, Louisville.

6 - 9

Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC) annual meeting—Jackson, MS

12

OKTOBERFEST - Kentucky Museum Associates' Fundraiser. (Details, page 1.)

28

Quarterly Meeting - Kentucky Museum Advisory Council

## November

1

Textile of the Month - Sunrise and Window Sash pattern overshot coverlet (ca. 1840), made by Jemima Day Gardner Smith, Edmonson County, Ky.; donated by Raymond L. Pruitt, Bowling Green.

1 - 2

Annual meeting—Historical Confederation of Kentucky—activities scheduled for "Riverview," the

Hobson House; the Shaker Museum, South Union; and the Kentucky Library and Museum. Contact Samuel Terry (502) 843-5565.

22

Kentucky Museum Associates annual dinner - Kentucky Building Lecture Hall. (More information at a later date.)

28

Kentucky Building closed **THANKSGIVING DAY ONLY** — Kentucky Library open Friday and Saturday 9:30 - 4:00; Kentucky Museum galleries and Museum Store open Friday and Saturday 9:30 - 4:00, Sunday 1:00 - 4:30.

## December

1

Textile of the Month - Chariot Wheels variation pattern overshot coverlet (ca. 19th century), made by Mrs. Tom Hosick, Mt. Carmon, Ill.; donated by Christine Thomas Floyd, Bowling Green.



The Kentucky Library and Museum  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101  
Telephone (502) 745-2592

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
BULK RATE  
PERMIT 398  
BOWLING GREEN  
KY 42101



## HOURS

Tue.-Sat. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Sunday 1 - 4 p.m.

# THE FANLIGHT